

Nauert, Uta

S/N: 10/709,597

REMARKS

Applicant notes that this application has been granted **SPECIAL STATUS**. Accordingly, Applicant appreciates early consideration of this Response in accordance with MPEP §702.02.

Claims 1-33 are pending in the present application. In the final Office Action mailed January 31, 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 19-20 and 22-26 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Holland (USP 4,546,730) in view of Tseng (USP 6,418,950). Applicant appreciates and accepts the allowability of claims 1-18 and 27-33 and the indication of allowability of claim 21.

Claim 11 was objected to for failing to end with a period. Applicant has amended claim 11 to correct the typographical error. Accordingly, Applicant believes claim 11 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 19 has been amended to incorporate the allowed subject matter of claim 21. Claim 21 is hereby cancelled. Accordingly, Applicant believes claim 19, and those claims that depend therefrom, are in condition for allowance.

The Examiner has again objected to the Abstract stating that "in line 1, 'is disclosed' should be deleted" and that "use of the term - rather than its meaning - in the abstract is the core of the issue." Although Applicant appreciates the Examiner's suggestion to simply delete "is disclosed" from the Abstract, Applicant would prefer the Abstract begin with a complete sentence. To expedite allowance of the above captioned matter in accordance with the "Special" status it has been granted, Applicant has amended the abstract to remove the root "disclos" therefrom. Accordingly, Applicant believes that the Abstract is in accordance with MPEP §608.01 and requests that the objection thereto be withdrawn.

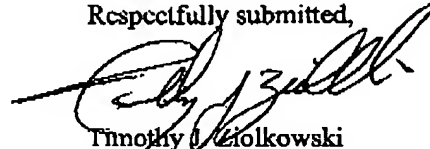
Therefore, in light of at least the foregoing, Applicant respectfully believes that the present application is in condition for allowance. As a result, Applicant respectfully requests timely and expedited issuance of a Notice of Allowance for claims 1-20, 22-27 and 29-33.

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Applicant appreciates the Examiner's consideration of these Amendments and Remarks and cordially invites the Examiner to call the undersigned, should the Examiner consider any matters unresolved.

Respectfully submitted,



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